

TABLE OF CONTENTS

CHAPTER 13

EMERGENCY OPERATIONS AND RESPONSE

| | | |
|-------|--|----|
| 13.1 | Administration | 2 |
| 13.2 | Organization | 13 |
| 13.3 | Training and Education | 17 |
| 13.4 | Vehicles, Equipment and Drivers | 21 |
| 13.5 | Protective Clothing and Protective Equipment | 26 |
| 13.6 | Emergency Operations | 36 |
| 13.7 | Facility Safety | 45 |
| 13.8 | Medical and Physical | 46 |
| 13.9 | Member Assistance and Wellness Program | 48 |
| 13.10 | Critical Incident Stress Program | 49 |
| 13.11 | Referenced Publications | 49 |

13 EMERGENCY OPERATIONS AND RESPONSE

13.1 Administration

A. Scope

1. This guideline contains minimum requirements for Monroe County Emergency Services System related occupational safety and health program.
2. These requirements are applicable to public, governmental, and private organizations providing emergency medical services, rescue, fire suppression, fire investigation, hazardous materials mitigation, special operations, and other emergency services.

B. Purpose

1. The purpose of this guideline is to specify the minimum requirements for an occupational safety and health program for emergency service responders and to specify safety guidelines for those members involved in emergency medical services, rescue, fire suppression, fire investigations, hazardous materials operations, airport rescue and fire fighting, special operations, and related activities.
2. Many of the performance objectives of this guideline shall be permitted to be achieved in a variety of ways. The achievement of these objectives are intended to help prevent accidents, injuries, and exposures and to reduce the severity of those accidents, injuries, and exposures that do occur. Objectives also help to prevent exposure to hazardous materials and contagious diseases and to reduce the probability of occupational fatalities, illnesses, and disabilities affecting emergency response personnel.
3. Nothing herein shall be intended to restrict any jurisdiction from exceeding these minimum requirements.

C. Implementation

1. The authority having jurisdiction shall set a date or dates for achieving compliance with the requirements of this guideline and shall be permitted to establish a phase-in schedule for compliance with specific requirements of this guideline.
2. Emergency Services shall coordinate with Monroe County Risk Management and adopt a risk management plan as specified in this guideline. This risk management plan shall include a written plan for compliance with this guideline.

D. Equivalency

1. The authority having jurisdiction shall be permitted to approve an equivalent level of qualifications for the requirements specified in this guideline, provided that Emergency Services have technical documentation to demonstrate equivalency.
2. The approved equivalent levels shall provide as nearly equivalent training, education, competency, and safety as possible and shall require that training, education, and competency be commensurate with those functions that the members are expected to perform as specified in the organizational statement in accordance with this guideline. In no case shall the equivalency afford less competency of members or safety to members than that which, in the judgment of the authority having jurisdiction, would be provided by compliance with the provisions of the specified paragraphs.

E. Definitions

Advanced Life Support (ALS): Treatment of life-threatening medical emergencies through the use of techniques such as endotracheal intubation, the administration of drugs, or intravenous fluids, telemetry, cardiac monitoring, and cardiac defibrillation by a qualified person, pursuant to rules of the Florida Department of Health.

Aerial Device: An aerial ladder, elevating platform, aerial ladder platform, or water tower that is designed to position personnel, handle materials, provide egress, and discharge water.

Aircraft Rescue and Fire Fighting (ARFF): The fire-fighting actions taken to rescue persons and to control or extinguish fire involving or adjacent to aircraft on the ground. Such rescue and fire-fighting actions are performed both inside and outside of the aircraft.

Approach Fire Fighting: Limited, specialized exterior fire-fighting operations at incidents involving fires producing very high levels of conductive, convective, and radiant heat, such as bulk flammable gas and bulk flammable liquid fires. Specialized thermal protection from exposure to high levels of radiant heat is necessary for the persons involved in such operations due to the limited scope of these operations and the greater distance from the fire at which these operations are conducted. Approach fire fighting is not entry, proximity, or structural fire fighting. See also Entry Fire Fighting, Proximity Fire Fighting, and Structural Fire Fighting.

Approved: Acceptable to the jurisdictional authority.

Authority Having Jurisdiction / Jurisdictional Authority: The agency, organization, office, or individual responsible for approving the operation and training, equipment, an installation, or a procedure.

Basic Life Support (BLS): Emergency medical treatment at a level as defined by the medical authority having jurisdiction.

Belt: A system component; material configured as a device that fastens only around the waist and is designated as a ladder belt, an escape belt, or a ladder/escape belt.

Escape Belt: A belt that is certified as compliant with the applicable requirements of this guideline and is intended for use only by the wearer as an emergency self-rescue device.

Ladder Belt.: A belt that is certified as compliant with the applicable requirements of this guideline and is intended for use as a positioning device for a person on a ladder.

Ladder/Escape Belt: A belt that is certified as compliant with the applicable requirements of this guideline for both a ladder belt and an escape belt and that is intended for use as a positioning device for a person on a ladder as well as for use only by the wearer as an emergency self-rescue device.

Candidate: A person who has submitted an application to become a member of emergency services.

Closed-Circuit Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA): A recirculation-type SCBA in which the exhaled gas is rebreathed by the wearer after the carbon dioxide has been removed from the exhalation gas and the oxygen content within the system has been restored from sources such as compressed breathing air, chemical oxygen, and liquid oxygen, or compressed gaseous oxygen.

Communicable Disease: A disease that can be transmitted from one person to another. Also known as contagious disease.

Company: A group of members having the following characteristics:

- a. Under the direct supervision of an officer or leader.
- b. Trained and equipped to perform assigned tasks.
- c. Usually organized and identified as engine companies, ladder companies, rescue companies, or squad companies.
- d. Usually operating with one piece of emergency services apparatus (e.g., quint, pumper, ladder truck, elevating platform, rescue, squad, or ambulance).
- e. Arriving at the incident scene on emergency service apparatus or assembling at the scene prior to assignment.

MONROE COUNTY SAFETY POLICIES AND PROCEDURES MANUAL

Confined Space: An area large enough and so configured that a member can bodily enter and perform assigned work. An area with limited or restricted means for entry and exit. An area that is not designed for continuous human occupancy. Additionally, a confined space is further defined as having one or more of the following characteristics:

- a. The area contains or has a potential to contain a hazardous atmosphere, including an oxygen-deficient atmosphere.
- b. The area contains a material with a potential to engulf a member.
- c. The area has an internal configuration such that a member could be trapped by inwardly converging walls or a floor that slopes downward and tapers to a small cross section.
- d. The area contains any other recognized serious hazard.

Contaminant: A harmful, irritating, or nuisance material foreign to the normal atmosphere.

Debilitating Illness or Injury: A condition that temporarily or permanently prevents a member of emergency services from engaging in normal duties and activities as a result of illness or injury.

Defensive Operations: Actions that are intended to control a fire by limiting its spread to a defined area, avoiding the commitment of personnel and equipment to dangerous areas. Defensive operations are generally performed from the exterior of structures and are based on a determination that the risk to personnel exceeds the potential benefits of offensive actions.

Department: See Emergency Services Department.

Drug: Any substance, chemical, over-the-counter medication, or prescribed medication that can affect the performance of an emergency responder.

Emergency Incident: A specific emergency operation.

Emergency Medical Services: The activities or services to prevent or treat a sudden critical illness or injury and to provide emergency medical care and pre-hospital emergency medical transportation to sick, injured, or otherwise incapacitated persons in this state. See Emergency Services.

Emergency Medical Services Director: The highest ranking individual with overall responsibility of emergency medical services.

Emergency Medical Services Member: See Member.

MONROE COUNTY SAFETY POLICIES AND PROCEDURES MANUAL

Emergency Operations; Activities of emergency services relating to emergency medical care, rescue, fire suppression, and special operations, including response to the scene of the incident and all functions performed at the scene.

Emergency Services: The organization established to provide emergency medical care, rescue, fire suppression, and related duties within a service area.

Emergency Services Apparatus: Any vehicle including those used for ambulance, rescue, fire suppression, emergency medical services, hazardous materials operations, wildland, or other functions-operated by department member.

Emergency Services Director: See Public Safety Division Director.

Emergency Services Facility: Any building or area owned, operated, occupied, or used by emergency services on a routine basis. This does not include locations where emergency services can be summoned to perform emergency operations or other duties, unless such premises are normally under the control of emergency services.

Entry Fire Fighting: Extraordinarily specialized fire-fighting operations that can include the activities of rescue, fire suppression, and property conservation at incidents involving fires producing very high levels of conductive, convective, and radiant heat, such as aircraft fires, bulk flammable gas fires, and bulk flammable liquid fires. Highly specialized thermal protection from exposure to extreme levels of conductive, convective, and radiant heat is necessary for persons involved in such extraordinarily specialized operations due to the scope of these operations and because direct entry into flames is made. Usually these operations are exterior operations. Entry fire fighting is not structural fire fighting. See also Approach Fire Fighting, Proximity Fire Fighting, and Structural Fire Fighting.

Facility : See Emergency Services Facility.

Fire Marshal: The highest ranking individual with overall responsibilities of fire prevention and investigation.

Fire Rescue Director: The highest ranking individual with overall responsibilities of fire rescue services.

Fire Rescue Member: See Member.

Fire Rescue Services: Commonly known as the organization providing fire suppression and prevention, and related services along with providing hazardous materials and special operations. See Emergency Services.

Fire Services: See Emergency Services.

Fire Shelter: A personal protection item carried by fire fighters that, when deployed,

unfolds to form a shelter of heat-reflective materials.

Fire Suppression: The activities involved in controlling and extinguishing fires. Fire suppression shall include all activities performed at the scene of a fire incident or training exercise that expose fire rescue members to the dangers of heat, flame, smoke, and other products of combustion, explosion, or structural collapse.

Flame Resistance: The property of a material whereby the application of a flaming or non-flaming source of ignition and the subsequent removal of the ignition source results in the termination of combustion. Flame resistance can be an inherent property of the material, or it can be imparted by specific treatment.

Fully Enclosed Area: A cab or passenger compartment of fire apparatus providing total enclosure equipped with positive latching doors for entry and exit.

Gloves: An element of the protective ensemble designed to provide minimum protection to the fingers, thumb, hand, and wrist.

Guideline: A written indication or outline of department procedures that permits best judgement and adaptability in application.

Hazard: The potential for harm or damage to people, property, or the environment. Hazards include the characteristics of facilities, equipment systems, property, hardware, or other objects and the actions and inactions of people that create such hazards.

Hazardous Area: The area where members might be exposed to a hazardous atmosphere. A particular substance, device, event, circumstance, or condition that presents a danger to members of fire rescue.

Hazardous Atmosphere: Any atmosphere that is oxygen deficient or that contains a toxic or disease-producing contaminant. A hazardous atmosphere can be immediately dangerous to life and health.

Hazardous Material: A substance that presents an unusual danger to persons due to properties of toxicity, chemical reactivity or decomposition, corrosivity, explosion or detonation, etiological hazards, or similar properties.

Hazardous Materials Operations: All activities performed at the scene of a hazardous materials incident that expose fire rescue members to the dangers of hazardous materials.

Health and Fitness Coordinator: The person who, under the supervision of emergency services physician, has been designated by the department to coordinate and be responsible for the health and fitness programs of the department.

MONROE COUNTY SAFETY POLICIES AND PROCEDURES MANUAL

Health and Safety Officer: The member of emergency services assigned and authorized as the manager of the safety and health program and who performs the duties and responsibilities specified in this guideline. This individual can be the incident safety officer or that can also be a separate function.

Health Data Base: A compilation of records and data that relates to the health experience of a group of individuals and is maintained in a manner such that it is retrievable for study and analysis over a period of time.

Health Promotion: Preventive health activities that identify real and potential health risks in the work environment and that inform, motivate, and otherwise help people to adopt and maintain healthy practices and lifestyles.

Hot Zone: The area immediately surrounding a hazardous material incident that extends far enough to prevent adverse effects from the release of hazardous materials to personnel outside the zone. This zone is also referred to as the "exclusion zone" or "restricted zone" in other documents.

Immediately Dangerous to Life or Health (IDLH): Any atmosphere that poses an immediate hazard to life or produces immediate irreversible debilitating effects on health.

Incident Action Plan: The objectives reflecting the overall incident strategy, tactics, risk management, and member safety that are developed by the incident commander. Incident action plans are updated throughout the incident.

Incident Commander: The emergency service member in overall command of an emergency incident.

Incident Management System (IMS): An organized system of roles, responsibilities, and standard operating procedures used to manage emergency operations. Such systems are often referred to as incident command systems (ICS).

Incident Safety Officer: An individual appointed to respond or assigned at an incident scene by the incident commander to perform the duties and responsibilities specified in this guideline. This individual can be the incident safety officer or can be a separate individual, appointed by the incident commander, or a pre-designated individual.

Infection Control Program: Emergency services formal policy and implementation of procedures relating to the control of infectious and communicable disease hazards where employees, patients, or the general public could be exposed to blood, body fluids, or other potentially infectious materials in the emergency services work environment.

Infectious Disease: An illness or disease resulting from invasion of a host by

MONROE COUNTY SAFETY POLICIES AND PROCEDURES MANUAL

disease-producing organisms such as bacteria, viruses, fungi, or parasites.

Interface Area: An area of the body where the protective garments, helmet, gloves, footwear, or SCBA facepiece meet (i.e., the protective coat/helmet/SCBA facepiece area, the protective coat/protective trouser area, the protective coat/glove area, and the protective trouser/footwear area).

Interface Components: Elements of the protective ensemble that are designed to provide limited protection to interface areas.

Life Safety Harness System Components: The following are utilized for fall arrest and rappelling operations:

Class I Life Safety Harness. Harness that fastens around waist and around thighs or under buttocks and designed to be used for emergency escape with one-person loads (300 pounds).

Class II Life Safety Harness. Harness that fastens around waist and around thighs or under buttocks and designed for rescue where two-person loads can be encountered (600 pounds).

Class III Life Safety Harness. Harness that fastens around waist, around thighs or under buttocks, and over shoulders and designed for rescue where two-person loads can be encountered (600 pounds) and where inverting might occur. Class III life safety harnesses shall be permitted to consist of one or more parts.

Medical Evaluation: The analysis of information for the purpose of making a determination of medical certification. Medical evaluation can include a medical examination.

Member: A person involved in performing the duties and responsibilities of emergency services, under the auspices of the department and organization. A emergency service member can be a full-time or part-time employee or a paid or unpaid volunteer, can occupy any position or rank within the department, and can engage in emergency operations.

Member Assistance Program (MAP): A generic term used to describe the various methods used in emergency services for the control of alcohol and other substance abuse, stress, and personal problems that adversely affect member performance.

Member Organization: An organization formed to represent the collective and individual rights and interests of the members of emergency services, such as a labor union or fire fighters' association. This definition includes any organization authorized to represent the interests of its members in dealing with emergency services management.

Occasionally Assigned: The infrequent fire-fighting responsibility in a given jurisdiction, district, or area. Fire-fighting situations that are less likely to occur or that occur on an infrequent basis within the response area.

Occupational Illness: An illness or disease contracted through or aggravated by the performance of the duties, responsibilities, and functions of emergency service members.

Occupational Injury: An injury sustained during the performance of the duties, responsibilities, and functions of an emergency service member.

Offensive Operations: Actions that involve a direct attack on a fire to directly control and extinguish the fire, generally performed in the interior of involved structures.

Open-Circuit SCBA. An SCBA in which exhalation is vented to the atmosphere and not rebreathed. There are two types of open-circuit SCBA: negative-pressure or demand type and positive-pressure or pressure-demand type.

Oxygen-Deficient Atmosphere: Air atmospheres containing less than 19.5 percent oxygen by volume at one standard atmosphere pressure.

Personnel Accountability System: A system that readily identifies both the location and function of all members operating at an incident scene.

Positive-Pressure SCBA: A SCBA, in which the pressure inside the facepiece in relation to the pressure surrounding the outside of the facepiece, is positive during both inhalation and exhalation when tested by NIOSH in accordance with 42 CFR 84, Subpart H.

Pressure-Demand SCBA: See Positive-Pressure SCBA.

Primarily Assigned: The principal fire-fighting responsibility in a given jurisdiction, district, or area. Fire-fighting situations that are most likely to occur within the response area.

Procedure: An organizational directive issued by the authority having jurisdiction or by the department that establishes a specific policy that must be followed.

Property Conservation: Those activities directed at stopping or minimizing the dollar loss to buildings and property from the effects of fire and fire suppression activities or other emergency situations and the mitigation of those emergencies.

Protective Clothing Ensemble: Multiple elements of clothing and equipment designed to provide a degree of protection for fire fighters from adverse exposures to the inherent risks of structural fire-fighting operations and certain other emergency

MONROE COUNTY SAFETY POLICIES AND PROCEDURES MANUAL

operations. The elements of the protective ensemble are coats, trousers, coveralls, helmets, gloves, footwear, and interface components.

Protective Uniform: A unit of textile apparel configured as a shirt, pant, or coverall and designed to be both the thermal barrier or a portion of the thermal barrier of a garment element of the protective ensemble and an apparel unit(s) of a station/work uniform.

Proximity Fire Fighting: Specialized fire-fighting operations that can include the activities of rescue, fire suppression, and property conservation at incidents involving fires producing very high levels of conductive, convective, and radiant heat such as aircraft fires, bulk flammable gas fires, and bulk flammable liquid fires. Specialized thermal protection from exposure to high levels of radiant heat, as well as thermal protection from conductive and convective heat, is necessary for persons involved in such operations due to the scope of these operations and the close distance to the fire at which these operations are conducted, although direct entry into flame is not made. These operations usually are exterior operations but might be combined with interior operations.

Proximity fire fighting is not structural fire fighting but might be combined with structural fire-fighting operations. Proximity fire fighting also is not entry fire fighting. See also Approach Fire Fighting, Entry Fire Fighting, and Structural Fire Fighting.

Public Safety Division Director: The highest ranking individual with overall responsibilities for the Public Safety Division.

Qualified Person: A person who, by possession of a recognized degree, certificate, professional standing, or skill, and who, by knowledge, training, and experience, has demonstrated the ability to deal with problems related to the subject matter, the work, or the project.

Related Activities: Any and all functions that emergency service members can be called upon to perform in the execution of their duties.

Rescue: Those activities directed at locating endangered persons at an emergency incident and removing those persons from danger.

Rescue Incident: An emergency incident that primarily involves the rescue of persons subject to physical danger and may include the provision of emergency medical services.

Rescue Services: See Emergency Services.

Risk: A measure of the probability and severity of adverse effects. These adverse effects result from an exposure to a hazard.

MONROE COUNTY SAFETY POLICIES AND PROCEDURES MANUAL

Risk Management: Identification and analysis of exposure to hazards, selection of appropriate risk management techniques to handle exposures, implementation of chosen techniques, and monitoring of results, with respect to the health and safety of members.

Rope: A compact but flexible, torsionally balanced, continuous structure of fibers produced from strands that are twisted, plaited, or braided together and that serve primarily to support a load or transmit a force from the point of origin to the point of application.

Life Safety Rope: Rope dedicated solely for the purpose of supporting people during rescue, fire fighting, other emergency operations, or during training evaluations. See also Personal Escape Rope.

One-Person Rope: Life safety rope designed to support a one-person load when in use; also can be used to support a two-person load when used in systems where two ropes are used as separate and equal members.

Two-Person Rope: Life safety rope designed to support a two-person load when in use.

Personal Escape Rope: A system component; a single-purpose, one-person, one-time use, emergency self-escape (self-rescue) rope; not classified as a life safety rope. See also Life Safety Rope.

SCBA: See Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus.

Seat Belt: A two-point lap belt, a three-point lap/shoulder belt, or a four-point lap/shoulder harness for vehicle occupants designed to limit their movement in the event of an accident, rapid acceleration, or rapid deceleration by securing individuals safely to a vehicle in a seated position. See also Vehicle Safety Harness.

Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA): A respirator worn by the user that supplies a respirable atmosphere that is either carried in or generated by the apparatus and is independent of the ambient environment.

Service Testing: The regular, periodic inspection and testing of apparatus and equipment, according to an established schedule and guideline, to ensure that they are in safe and functional operating condition.

Shall: Indicates a mandatory requirement.

Should: Indicates a recommendation or that which is advised but not required.

Special Operations: Those emergency incidents to which emergency services responds that require specific and advanced training and specialized tools and

MONROE COUNTY SAFETY POLICIES AND PROCEDURES MANUAL

equipment. Special operations include water rescue, extrication, hazardous materials, confined space entry, high-angle rescue, aircraft rescue and fire fighting, and other operations requiring specialized training.

Standard Operating Guideline: An organizational directive that establishes and outlines a course of action that allows skilled judgement and adaptability in application.

Structural Fire Fighting: The activities of rescue, fire suppression, and property conservation in buildings, enclosed structures, aircraft interiors, vehicles, vessels, or like properties that are involved in a fire or emergency situation.

Tactical Level Management Unit: A management unit identified in the incident management system commonly known as "division," "group," or "sector."

Vehicle Safety Harness: A restraint device for vehicle occupants designed to limit their movement in the event of an accident, rapid acceleration, or rapid deceleration by securing individuals safely to a vehicle either in a seated position or tethered to the vehicle. See also Seat Belt.

Wildland Fire Fighting: The activities of fire suppression and property conservation in vegetation that is not within structures but is involved in a fire situation.

Working Structural Fire: Any fire that requires the use of a 1-1/2-inch (3.8-cm) or larger fire attack hose line and that also requires the use of self-contained breathing apparatus for members entering the hazardous area.

13.2 Organization

A. Emergency Services Organizational Statement

1. Emergency Services shall prepare and maintain a written statement or policy that establishes the existence of the department, the services the department is authorized and expected to perform, and the basic organizational structure.
2. Emergency Services shall prepare and maintain written policies and standard operating procedures that document the organization structure, membership, roles and responsibilities, expected functions, and training requirements, including the following:
 - a. The types of standard evolutions that are expected to be performed and the evolutions that must be performed simultaneously or in sequence for different types of situations
 - b. The minimum number of members who are required to perform each function or evolution and the manner in which the function is to be

performed

c. The number and types of apparatus and the number of personnel that will be dispatched to different types of incidents

d. The procedures that will be employed to initiate and manage operations at the scene of an emergency incident

3. The organizational statement and procedures shall be available for inspection by members or their designated representative.

B. Risk Management Plan

1. Emergency Services in conjunction with the county's Risk Management Section shall develop and adopt a comprehensive written risk management plan. The risk management plan shall consider all emergency service policies and procedures, and it shall include goals and objectives to ensure that the risks associated with the operations of the department are identified and effectively managed.

2. The risk management plan shall at least cover the risks associated with the following:

- a. Administration
- b. Facilities
- c. Training
- d. Vehicle operations, both emergency and non-emergency
- e. Protective clothing and equipment
- f. Operations at emergency incidents
- g. Operations at non-emergency incidents
- h. Other related activities

3. The risk management plan shall include at least the following components:

- a. Risk Identification. Actual and potential hazards
- b. Risk Evaluation. Likelihood of occurrence of a given hazard and severity of its consequences
- c. Risk Control Techniques. Solutions for elimination or mitigation of potential hazards; implementation of best solution
- d. Risk Management Monitoring. Evaluation of effectiveness of risk control techniques

C. Policy

1. The department shall adopt an official written departmental occupational safety and health policy that identifies specific goals and objectives for the prevention and elimination of accidents and occupational injuries, exposures to communicable disease, illnesses, and fatalities. It shall be the policy of emergency services to seek and to provide an occupational safety and health program that complies with this guideline for its members.
2. The department shall evaluate the effectiveness of the occupational safety and health program at least once every three years. An audit report of the findings shall be submitted to the EMS Director and Fire Rescue Director and to the members of the occupational safety and health committee.

D. Roles and Responsibilities

1. It shall be the responsibility of the department and the county's Safety Manager to research, develop, implement, and enforce an occupational safety and health program that recognizes and reduces the inherent risks involved in the operations of the department.
 - a. The department and county's Safety Manager shall be responsible for compliance with all applicable laws and legal requirements with respect to member safety and health.
 - b. The department shall establish and enforce rules, regulations, and standard operating procedures and/or guidelines to reach the objectives of this guideline.
2. The department and the county's Safety Manager shall be responsible for developing and implementing an accident investigation procedure.
 - a. All accidents, injuries, fatalities, illnesses, and exposures involving members shall be investigated.
 - b. All accidents involving department vehicles, equipment, or emergency service facilities shall be investigated.
 - c. The department shall take whatever appropriate corrective action that is necessary to avoid repetitive occurrences of accidents and exposure to communicable diseases.
 - d. Records of such investigations shall be kept in accordance with the applicable provisions of this chapter.

3. Each individual member of the department shall cooperate, participate, and comply with the provisions of the occupational safety and health program.

It shall be the right of each member to be protected by an effective occupational safety and health program and to participate or be represented in the research, development, implementation, evaluation, and enforcement of the program.

E. Health and Safety Officer

1. The EMS Director and Fire Rescue Director shall appoint a designated department health and safety officer. This position shall comply with the requirements of NFPA 1521, Standard for Fire Department Safety Officer.

2. The department health and safety officer shall be responsible for the management of the occupational safety and health program and coordinate activities with the County Safety Office and applicable occupational policies.

3. The EMS Director and Fire Rescue Director shall assign or make available in accordance with Chapter 2 of NFPA 1521, Standard for Fire Department Safety Officer, such additional assistant safety officers and resources as required to fulfill the requirements of the occupational safety and health program.

F. Occupational Safety and Health Committee

1. The Monroe County Safety/Accident Review Board will serve as the occupational safety and health committee in an advisory capacity to the EMS Director and Fire Rescue Director.

The following representatives may sit on this board in an advisory capacity; the designated department health and safety officer, representatives of department management, and individual members or representatives of member organizations. The committee shall also be permitted to include other persons. If these representatives feel they would be more effective they can develop an occupational safety and health committee.

Representatives of member organizations shall be selected by their respective organizations, but the EMS Director and Fire Rescue Director shall appoint other committee members to the safety committee.

2. The purpose of this committee shall be to conduct research, develop recommendations, and study and review matters pertaining to occupational safety and health within the department.
3. The committee shall hold regularly scheduled meetings and shall be

MONROE COUNTY SAFETY POLICIES AND PROCEDURES MANUAL

permitted to hold special meetings whenever necessary. Regular meetings shall be held at least once every six months. Written minutes of each meeting shall be retained and shall be made available to all members.

G. Records

1. The department in conjunction with the county's Safety Manager shall establish a data collection system and maintain permanent records of all accidents, injuries, illnesses, exposures to infectious agents and communicable diseases, or deaths that are or might be job related.
2. The data collection system shall also maintain individual records of any occupational exposure to known or suspected toxic products or infectious or communicable diseases.
3. The department shall assure that a confidential health record for each member and a health data base is maintained as specified in Chapter 13.8 of this guideline.
4. The department shall maintain training records for each member indicating dates, subjects covered, satisfactory completion, and, if any, certifications achieved.
5. The department shall assure that inspection, maintenance, repair, and service records are maintained for all vehicles and equipment used for emergency operations and training.

13.3 Training and Education

A. General Requirements

1. The department shall establish and maintain a training and education program with a goal of preventing occupational accidents, deaths, injuries, and illnesses.
2. The training and education provided to members shall address all of the applicable provisions of this guideline.

Equivalent levels of training shall be permitted as specified in this guideline.

3. The department shall provide training and education for all department members commensurate with the duties and functions that they are expected to perform. Members shall be provided with training and education appropriate for their duties and responsibilities before being permitted to engage in emergency operations.

MONROE COUNTY SAFETY POLICIES AND PROCEDURES MANUAL

4. The department shall provide training and education for all members to assure that they are able to perform their assigned duties in a safe manner that does not pose a hazard to themselves or to other members.
5. All training and education shall be provided by qualified persons.
6. Department training officers, when applicable, shall at least meet the qualifications for Instructor I as specified in NFPA 1041, Standard for Fire Service Instructor Professional Qualifications.
7. The training program for all members engaged in emergency operations shall include procedures for the safe exit of members from the dangerous area in the event of equipment failure or sudden changes in conditions.
8. Training in emergency operations shall be based on standard operating procedures. These procedures shall be maintained in written form (in conjunction with the department risk management plan) and shall address anticipated emergency scene operations.
9. Training exercises shall be conducted in accordance with the established standard operating procedures and shall be supervised by qualified instructors.
10. All members who are likely to be involved in emergency operations shall be trained in the incident management system used by the department as specified in this guideline.

B. Training Requirements

1. All career members who engage in structural fire fighting shall meet the minimum requirements of Fire Fighter I as specified in NFPA 1001, Standard on Fire Fighter Professional Qualifications. All volunteer firefighters shall at least meet the requirements as specified by the Fire Rescue Director.
2. Any training involving live fire-fighting exercises shall be conducted in compliance with NFPA 1403, Standard on Live Fire Training Evolutions.
3. All fire apparatus drivers/operators shall meet the applicable requirements specified in NFPA 1002, Standard for Fire Department Vehicle Driver/Operator Professional Qualifications.
4. Any member who is primarily assigned to aircraft rescue and fire fighting shall meet the requirements specified in NFPA 1003, Standard for Airport Fire Fighter Professional Qualifications.
5. All career fire officers shall at least meet the requirements for Fire Officer

MONROE COUNTY SAFETY POLICIES AND PROCEDURES MANUAL

I as specified in NFPA 1021, Standard for Fire Officer Professional Qualifications. All volunteer fire officers shall at least meet the requirements as specified by fire rescue services.

6. All members who engage in wildland fire fighting shall meet the requirements for wildland fire fighters as specified in NFPA 1051, Standard for Wildland Fire Fighter Professional Qualifications.

7. All members who engage in emergency medical services shall meet the requirements F.S. 381.0034, FCA 64E-2008 and 64E-2.009.

8. All members shall meet the training requirements for infectious disease control as specified by the Emergency Services Department's Physician, (Medical Director), and Infection Control Program.

9. All members who respond to incidents involving the release or potential release of hazardous substances shall meet at least the requirements for First Responder Operations Level as specified in NFPA 472, Standard for Professional Competence of Responders to Hazardous Materials Incidents.

10. All members who respond to marine vessel fires from land-based companies shall be trained to meet the requirements of NFPA 1405, Guide for Land-Based Fire Fighters Who Respond to Marine Vessel Fires.

11. All members who engage in emergency operations shall be trained commensurate with their duties and responsibilities. Training shall be as frequent as necessary to ensure that members can perform their assigned duties in a safe and competent manner but shall not be less frequent than specified in this section.

The department shall assure that all members who engage in fire-fighting operations are aware of the flammability and thermal stability characteristics of various types of fabrics used in clothing.

12. Members who use respiratory protection equipment at emergency incidents or in hazardous or potentially hazardous atmospheres shall be qualified to use respiratory protection. Members shall be trained for each type and model of respiratory protection they are required to use.

13. The individual officers in charge of fire prevention, maintenance, communications, and other specialized bureaus shall be responsible for special training needed by the personnel assigned to their particular staff function. They shall coordinate this special training with other programs of the department and with the training officer.

14. Where the department is responsible for nonstructural fire-fighting

MONROE COUNTY SAFETY POLICIES AND PROCEDURES MANUAL

operations, including but not limited to wildland or other exterior fires, the department shall provide training in such fire-fighting operations in compliance with NFPA 1403, Standard on Live Fire Training Evolutions.

15. These training sessions shall be in addition to the training required in this chapter for members who are also assigned to structural fire-fighting duties.

16. Smoke-generating devices that produce a hazardous atmosphere shall not be used in training exercises.

C. Frequency

1. Training shall be provided for all members as often as necessary to meet the applicable requirements of this chapter, but not less than twice each year.

2. Whenever changes in standard operating procedures or technology are introduced, or new hazards are identified in the work environment, appropriate training and education shall be provided for all affected members.

3. Where the department is responsible for structural fire-fighting operations, the department shall provide structural fire-fighting training at least monthly.

4. Members who engage in structural fire fighting shall attend a minimum of 10 monthly structural fire-fighting training sessions. Members shall participate in at least 24 hours of structural fire-fighting training annually.

5. Members who are primarily assigned to nonstructural fire-fighting operations shall attend nonstructural fire-fighting training sessions consisting of at least 24 hours of training annually.

6. Members who occasionally are assigned to nonstructural fire-fighting operations shall attend nonstructural fire-fighting training sessions consisting of at least nine hours annually.

D. Special Operations

1. Specific and advanced training and education shall be provided to members who engage in special operations.

2. The department shall develop written standard operating procedures and/or guidelines that describe the actions to be taken in situations involving special operations and shall include these standard operating procedures and/or guidelines in the advanced training and education program.

3. All members who are likely to be involved in hazardous materials

mitigation shall be trained to the appropriate level above First Responder Operations in accordance with NFPA 472, Standard for Professional Competence of Responders to Hazardous Materials Incidents.

13.4 Vehicles, Equipment and Drivers

A. Emergency Service Vehicles

1. The department shall consider safety and health as primary concerns in the specification, design, construction, acquisition, operation, maintenance, inspection, and repair of all emergency service department vehicles.
2. All new fire apparatus, including but not limited to pumpers, initial fire attack, mobile water supply, ladder and elevating platforms, and special service apparatus, shall be specified and ordered to meet the applicable requirements of NFPA 1901, Standard for Automotive Fire Apparatus. All licensed ambulances shall be spec and ordered to meet KKK-1822, FAC 64E-2.
3. All new wildland fire apparatus shall be specified and ordered to meet the requirements of NFPA 1906, Standard for Wildland Fire Apparatus.
4. Where tools, equipment, or respiratory protection are carried within enclosed seating areas of emergency vehicles, such items shall be secured by either a positive mechanical means of holding the item in its stowed position or in a compartment with a positive latching door. The means of holding the item in place or the compartment shall be designed to minimize injury to persons in the enclosed area of the vehicle caused by loose equipment during travel and in the event of an accident, a rapid deceleration, or a rapid acceleration.

B. Drivers/Operators of Emergency Service Apparatus

1. Department vehicles shall be operated only by members who have successfully completed an approved driver training program or by student drivers who are under the supervision of a qualified driver. Driver/operators of fire apparatus shall meet the requirements specified in Chapter 13.3 of this guideline. Driver/operators of an ambulance shall meet F.S. 401, FAC 64E-2.012.
2. Drivers of department vehicles shall have valid driver's licenses. Vehicles shall be operated in compliance with all traffic laws, including sections pertaining to emergency vehicles, and any requirements of the authority having jurisdiction.
3. Drivers of department vehicles shall be directly responsible for the safe and prudent operation of the vehicles under all conditions. When the driver is under the direct supervision of an officer, that officer shall also assume

MONROE COUNTY SAFETY POLICIES AND PROCEDURES MANUAL

responsibility for the actions of the driver.

4. Drivers shall not move department vehicles until all persons on the vehicle are seated and secured with seat belts in approved riding positions, other than as specifically allowed in this chapter.

5. During non-emergency travel, drivers of department vehicles shall obey all traffic control signals and signs and all laws and rules of the road of the jurisdiction for the operation of motor vehicles.

6. The department shall develop standard operating procedures for safely driving department vehicles during non-emergency travel and emergency response and shall include specific criteria for vehicle speed, crossing intersections, traversing railroad grade crossings, and the use of emergency warning devices. Such procedures for emergency response shall emphasize that the safe arrival of department vehicles at the emergency scene is the first priority.

7. During emergency response, drivers of department vehicles shall bring the vehicle to a complete stop under any of the following circumstances:

- a. When directed by a law enforcement officer
- b. Red traffic lights
- c. Stop signs
- d. Negative right-of-way intersections
- e. Blind intersections
- f. When the driver cannot account for all lanes of traffic in an intersection
- g. When other intersection hazards are present
- h. When encountering a stopped school bus with flashing warning lights

Drivers shall proceed through intersections only when the driver can account for all lanes of traffic in the intersection.

8. During emergency response or non-emergency travel, drivers of department vehicles shall come to a complete stop at all unguarded railroad grade crossings. Drivers shall assure that it is safe to proceed before crossing the railroad track(s). Drivers shall also use caution when approaching and crossing any guarded grade railroad crossing.

9. The department shall include in the driver training program information on the potential hazards of retarders, such as engine, transmission, and driveline retarders, and shall develop written procedures pertaining to the use of such retarders.

10. The department shall develop written procedures requiring drivers to discontinue the use of manual brake limiting valves, frequently labeled as a "wet road/dry road" switch, and requiring that the valve/switch remains in the "dry road" position.

C. Persons Riding in Apparatus

1. All persons riding in apparatus shall be seated and belted securely by seat belts in approved riding positions and at any time the vehicle is in motion other than as allowed in this section. Standing or riding on tail steps, sidesteps, running boards, or in any other exposed position shall be specifically prohibited. Seatbelts shall not be released or loosened for any purpose while the vehicle is in motion, including the donning of respiratory protection equipment or protective clothing.

a. Members actively performing necessary emergency medical care while the vehicle is in motion shall be secured to the vehicle by a seat belt, or by a safety harness designed for occupant restraint, to the extent consistent with the effective provision of such emergency medical care. All other persons in the vehicle shall be seated and belted in approved riding positions while the vehicle is in motion.

b. Written standard operating procedures and/or guidelines addressing all safety aspects shall be developed for hose loading operations while the vehicle is in motion.

2. Helmets and eye protection shall be provided for and used by persons riding in cabs or tiller seats that are not enclosed on at least three sides and the top.

3. On existing apparatus where there is an insufficient number of seats available for the number of members assigned to or expected to ride on that piece of apparatus, alternate means of transportation that provide seating positions shall be used. Such alternate means of transportation shall include, but not be limited to, other fire apparatus, automobiles, or vans.

4. All new apparatus shall be specified and ordered in accordance with the appropriate apparatus standard specified in this chapter with a sufficient number of seats in a fully enclosed personnel area for the maximum number of persons expected to ride on the vehicle at any time. The fully enclosed personnel area shall consist of a roof, a floor, and four sides, with positive latching doors that provide total enclosure.

D. Inspection, Maintenance and Repair of Apparatus

MONROE COUNTY SAFETY POLICIES AND PROCEDURES MANUAL

1. All department vehicles shall be inspected at least weekly, within 24 hours after any use or repair, and prior to being placed in service or used for emergency purposes to identify and correct unsafe conditions.
2. A preventive maintenance program shall be established, and records shall be maintained as specified in this guideline. Qualified persons in accordance with manufacturer's instructions shall perform maintenance, inspections, and repairs. Manufacturer's instructions shall be considered as minimum criteria for the maintenance, inspection, and repair of equipment.
3. The department shall establish a list of major defects to be utilized to evaluate when a vehicle shall be declared unsafe. Any department vehicle found to be unsafe shall be placed out of service until repaired.
4. All repairs to department apparatus shall be made by qualified persons experienced with the type of vehicle or the type of work to be performed in accordance with the vehicle manufacturer's instructions.
5. Fire pumps on apparatus shall be service tested in accordance with the applicable requirements of NFPA 1911, Standard for Service Tests of Pumps on Fire Department Apparatus.
6. All aerial devices shall be inspected and service tested in accordance with the applicable requirements of NFPA 1914, Standard for Testing Fire Department Aerial Devices.
7. All department apparatus shall be cleaned and disinfected after responding to an emergency medical incident where the potential for contamination from exposure to communicable diseases could have occurred. Cleaning and disinfecting shall be in accordance with NFPA 1581, Standard on Fire Department Infection Control Program.

E. Tools and Equipment

1. The department shall consider safety and health as primary concerns in the specification, design, construction, acquisition, operation, maintenance, inspection, and repair of all tools and equipment.

The hearing conservation objectives of this guideline shall be taken into account in the acquisition of new power tools and power equipment.

2. All new department ground ladders shall be specified and ordered to meet the applicable requirements of NFPA 1931, Standard on Design of and Design Verification Tests for Fire Department Ground Ladders.
3. All new fire hose shall be specified and ordered to meet the applicable

MONROE COUNTY SAFETY POLICIES AND PROCEDURES MANUAL

requirements of NFPA 1961, Standard on Fire Hose.

4. All new department spray nozzles shall be specified and ordered to meet the applicable requirements of NFPA 1964, Standard for Spray Nozzles (Shutoff and Tip).

5. All equipment carried on apparatus or designated for training shall be inspected at least weekly and within 24 hours after any use. Inventory records shall be maintained for the equipment carried on each vehicle. Records shall also be maintained for equipment designated for training.

6. All equipment carried on apparatus or designated for training shall be tested at least annually in accordance with manufacturer's instructions and applicable standards.

7. Medical or fire-fighting equipment found to be defective or in unserviceable condition shall be removed from service and repaired or replaced.

8. All department equipment and tools shall be cleaned and disinfected after responding to an emergency medical incident where the potential for contamination from exposure to communicable diseases might have occurred. Cleaning and disinfecting shall be in accordance the department's Infection Control Program.

9. All ground ladders shall be inspected and service tested in accordance with the applicable requirements of NFPA 1932, Standard on Use, Maintenance, and Service Testing of Fire Department Ground Ladders.

10. All fire hose shall be inspected and service tested in accordance with the applicable requirements of NFPA 1962, Standard for the Care, Use, and Service Testing of Fire Hose Including Couplings and Nozzles.

11. All fire extinguishers shall be inspected and tested in accordance with the applicable requirements of NFPA 10, Standard for Portable Fire Extinguishers.

13.5 Protective Clothing and Protective Equipment

A. General

1. Emergency services shall provide each member with the appropriate protective clothing and protective equipment to provide protection from the hazards to which the member is or is likely to be exposed. Such protective clothing and protective equipment shall be suitable for the tasks that the member is expected to perform.

MONROE COUNTY SAFETY POLICIES AND PROCEDURES MANUAL

2. Protective clothing and protective equipment shall be used whenever the member is exposed or potentially exposed to the hazards for which it is provided.
3. Members shall be fully trained in the care, use, inspection, maintenance, and limitations of the protective clothing and protective equipment assigned to them or available for their use.
4. Structural fire-fighting protective clothing shall be periodically cleaned at least every 6 months as specified in NFPA 1581, Standard on Fire Department Infection Control Program.
5. Cleaning processes for protective clothing ensembles shall be appropriate for the types of contaminants and for the materials that are to be cleaned.
6. Where station/work uniforms are worn by members, such station/work uniforms shall meet the requirements of NFPA 1975, Standard on Station/Work Uniforms for Fire Fighters.
7. While on duty, members shall not wear any clothing that is unsafe due to poor thermal stability or poor flame-resistant characteristics of the fabric(s).
8. The department shall provide for the cleaning of protective clothing and station/work uniforms. Such cleaning shall be performed either by a cleaning service that is familiar with the proper procedures and equipped to handle contaminated clothing or by a department facility that is equipped to handle contaminated clothing.

Where such cleaning is conducted in emergency service stations, the department shall provide at least one washing machine for this purpose in the designated cleaning area specified in the department's Infection Control Program.

B. Protective Clothing for Structural Fire Fighting

1. Members who engage in or are exposed to the hazards of structural fire fighting shall be provided with and shall use a protective ensemble that shall meet the applicable requirements of NFPA 1971, Standard on Protective Ensemble for Structural Fire Fighting.
 - a. There shall be at least a 2-in. (5.08-cm) overlap of all layers of the protective coat and the protective trousers so there is no gaping of the total thermal protection when the protective garments are worn. The minimum overlap shall be determined by measuring the garments on the wearer, without SCBA, in both of the following positions:

Position A. Standing, hands together reaching overhead as high as possible.

Position B. Standing, hands together reaching overhead, with body bent forward, to the side, and to the back as much as possible.

b. Single piece protective coveralls shall not be required to have an overlap of all layers provided there is continuous composite protection.

c. Protective coats with protective resilient wristlets secured through a thumb opening shall be permitted to provide gloves of the gauntlet type for use with these protective coats. Where not provide such wristlets attached to all protective coats shall provide gloves of the wristlet type for use with these protective coats.

d. Protective clothing and protective equipment shall be used and maintained in accordance with manufacturer's instructions. The department shall establish a maintenance and inspection program for protective clothing and protective equipment. Specific responsibilities shall be assigned for inspection and maintenance.

C. Respiratory Protection

1. The department shall adopt and maintain a respiratory protection program that addresses the selection, inspection, safe use, and maintenance of respiratory protection equipment, training in its use, and the assurance of air quality testing. Members shall be tested and certified at least annually in the safe and proper use of respiratory protection equipment that they are authorized to use.

The respiratory protection program shall meet the requirements of NFPA 1404, Standard for a Fire Department Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus Program.

2. The department shall have written standard operating procedures and/or guidelines to address the safe use of respiratory protection in hazardous atmospheres that can be encountered in normal operations and in emergencies.

3. The department shall provide to all -members and require all members to use SCBA that meets NFPA 1981, Standard on Open-Circuit Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus for Fire Fighters, when engaged in any operations where they might encounter atmospheres that are immediately dangerous to life or health (IDLH) or potentially IDLH or where the atmosphere is unknown.

4. Closed-circuit SCBA shall be permitted when SCBA is required. Closed-circuit SCBA shall be NIOSH certified with a minimum service duration of at

MONROE COUNTY SAFETY POLICIES AND PROCEDURES MANUAL

least 30 minutes and shall operate in the positive-pressure mode only.

5. Members using SCBA shall not compromise the protective integrity of the SCBA for any reason when operating in a hazardous atmosphere, or in an atmosphere where the quality of air is unknown, by removing the facepiece or disconnecting any portion of the SCBA that would allow the ambient atmosphere to be breathed.

6. Compressed gaseous breathing air for SCBA cylinders shall meet the requirements of ANSI/CGA G7.1, Commodity Specification for Air, with a minimum air quality of Grade D, and shall have a dew point level of -65°F (-54°C) or dryer (24 ppm v/v or less) and a maximum particulate level of 5 mg/m³ air.

7. When the department purchases compressed breathing air in a vendor-supplied SCBA cylinder, the department shall require the vendor to provide documentation that a sample of the breathing air obtained directly at the point of transfer from the vendor's filling system to the SCBA cylinder has been tested at least quarterly and that it meets the requirements of this section.

a. When the department manufactures its own breathing air, the department shall be required to provide documentation that a sample of the breathing air obtained directly from the point of transfer from the filling system to the SCBA cylinders has been tested at least quarterly and that it meets the requirements of this section.

b. When the department obtains compressed breathing air from a supplier and transfers it to other storage cylinders, cascade system cylinders, storage receivers, and other such storage equipment used for filling SCBA, the supplier shall be required to provide documentation that a sample of the breathing air obtained directly at the point of transfer from the filling system to the storage cylinders, cascade system cylinders, storage receivers, and other such storage equipment has been tested at least quarterly and that it meets the requirements of this section. In addition, the department itself shall obtain documentation that a sample of the breathing air obtained directly at the point of transfer to the SCBA cylinders from the storage cylinders, cascade system cylinders, storage receivers, and other such storage equipment used for filling SCBA has been tested at least quarterly and that it meets the requirements of this section.

8. SCBA cylinders shall be hydrostatically tested within the periods specified by the manufacturers and the applicable governmental agencies.

9. The facepiece seal capability of each member qualified to use SCBA shall be verified by qualitative fit testing on an annual basis and whenever new

MONROE COUNTY SAFETY POLICIES AND PROCEDURES MANUAL

types of SCBA or facepieces are issued. Each new member shall be tested before being permitted to use SCBA in a hazardous atmosphere. Only members with a properly fitting facepiece shall be permitted by the department to function in a hazardous atmosphere with SCBA.

10. Members who have a beard or facial hair at any point where the SCBA facepiece is designed to seal with the face, or hair that could interfere with the operation of the unit, shall not be permitted to use respiratory protection at emergency incidents or in hazardous or potentially hazardous atmospheres. These restrictions shall apply regardless of the specific fit test measurement that can be obtained under test conditions.

11. When a member must wear spectacles while using a full facepiece respiratory protection, the respiratory protection full facepiece shall be fitted with spectacles in such a manner that it shall not interfere with the facepiece-to-face seal.

a. Spectacles with any strap or temple bars that pass through the facepiece-to-face seal area shall be prohibited.

b. Use of contact lenses shall be permitted during full facepiece respiratory protection use, provided that the member has previously demonstrated successful long-term contact lens use.

12. Nothing shall be allowed to enter or pass through the area where the respiratory protection facepiece is designed to seal with the face, regardless of the specific fit test measurement that can be obtained.

a. Any head covering that passes between the sealing surface of the respiratory protection facepiece and the member's face shall be prohibited.

b. The respiratory protection facepiece and head harness with straps shall be worn under the protective hoods specified in this chapter.

c. The respiratory protection facepiece and head harness with straps shall be worn under the head protection of any hazardous chemical protective clothing specified in this guideline.

d. Helmets shall not interfere with the respiratory protection facepiece-to-face seal.

D. Protective Clothing for Proximity Fire-Fighting Operations

1. Members who engage in or are exposed to the hazards of proximity fire fighting shall be provided with and shall use both proximity protective coats and

MONROE COUNTY SAFETY POLICIES AND PROCEDURES MANUAL

proximity protective trousers, or a proximity protective coverall, for limb/torso protection. The proximity protective coat and proximity protective trousers, or the proximity protective coverall, shall meet the applicable requirements of NFPA 1976, Standard on Protective Clothing for Proximity Fire Fighting, and shall fulfill the requirements of NFPA 1500.

2. Members who engage in or are exposed to the hazards of proximity fire fighting shall be provided with and shall use helmets that meet the applicable requirements of NFPA 1971, Standard on Protective Ensemble for Structural Fire Fighting, and additional radiant reflective criteria that are approved for the expected proximity fire-fighting exposures where the helmet will be used.

3. Members who engage in or are exposed to the hazards of proximity fire fighting shall be provided with and shall use gloves that meet the applicable requirements of NFPA 1971, Standard on Protective Ensemble for Structural Fire Fighting, and additional radiant reflective criteria that are approved for the expected proximity fire-fighting exposures where the gloves will be used.

4. Members who engage in or are exposed to the hazards of proximity fire fighting shall be provided with and shall use footwear that meets the applicable requirements of NFPA 1971, Standard on Protective Ensemble for Structural Fire Fighting, and additional radiant reflective criteria that are approved for the expected proximity fire-fighting exposures where the footwear will be used.

5. Members who engage in or are exposed to the hazards of proximity fire fighting shall be provided with and shall use protective hoods that meet the applicable requirements of NFPA 1971, Standard on Protective Ensemble for Structural Fire Fighting, and additional radiant reflective criteria that are approved for the expected proximity fire-fighting exposures where the hood will be used.

6. Where SCBA is worn over or outside the proximity protective garment, the department shall inform the member of the potential high levels of radiant heat that can result in the failure of the SCBA. The department shall require additional approved radiant reflective criteria, including but not limited to a protective cover, for the expected proximity fire-fighting exposures when the SCBA is worn over or outside the proximity protective garment.

E. Protective Clothing for Emergency Medical Operations

1. Members who perform emergency medical care or are otherwise likely to be exposed to blood or other body fluids shall be provided with emergency medical garments, emergency medical face protection devices, and emergency medical gloves by the department.

2. Members shall wear emergency medical gloves when providing

emergency medical care. Patient care shall not be initiated before the gloves are in place.

The department shall provide all members who perform emergency medical care or are likely to be exposed to airborne infectious disease with NIOSH-approved Type C respirators certified to meet 42 CFR 84.

3. Members shall use emergency medical garments and emergency medical face protection devices prior to any patient care during which large splashes of body fluids can occur, such as spurting blood or childbirth.
4. Contaminated emergency medical garments, emergency medical face protection devices, and emergency medical gloves shall be cleaned and disinfected or disposed of in accordance with the department's Infection Control Program.
5. The department shall provide gloves that meet the requirements of NFPA 1971, Standard on Protective Ensemble for Structural Fire Fighting, during operations where sharp or rough edges are likely to be encountered during emergency medical care operations.

F. Chemical-Protective Clothing for Hazardous Chemical Emergency Operations

1. **Vapor-Protective Garments:** Members who engage in operations during hazardous chemical emergencies that will expose them to known chemicals in vapor form or to unknown chemicals shall be provided with and shall use vapor-protective suits. Vapor-protective suits shall meet the applicable requirements of NFPA 1991, Standard on Vapor-Protective Suits for Hazardous Chemical Emergencies, and fulfill the requirements of NFPA 1500.
2. **Liquid Splash-Protective Garments:** Members who engage in operations during hazardous chemical emergencies that will expose them to known chemicals in liquid-splash form shall be provided with and shall use liquid splash-protective suits. Liquid splash-protective suits shall meet the applicable requirements of NFPA 1992, Standard on Liquid Splash-Protective Suits for Hazardous Chemical Emergencies and fulfil the requirements of NFPA 1500.
3. **Support Function Protective Garments:** Members who provide functional support outside the hot zone during hazardous chemical emergencies shall be provided with and shall use support function protective garments. Support function protective garments shall meet the applicable requirements of NFPA 1993, Standard on Support Function Protective Clothing for Hazardous Chemical Operations, and fulfill the requirements of NFPA 1500.

4. Inspection, Maintenance and Disposal of Chemical-Protective Clothing

- a. All chemical-protective clothing shall be inspected and maintained as required by the technical data package, manufacturer's instructions, and manufacturer's recommendations.
- b. All chemical-protective clothing that receives a significant exposure to a chemical or chemical mixture shall be disposed of if decontamination will not stop the chemical assault on the garment and the protective qualities will be diminished or nullified. Disposal shall be in accordance with applicable state or federal regulations.

G. Protective Clothing and Equipment for Wildland Fire Fighting

1. The department shall establish standard operating procedures and/or guidelines for the use of wildland protective clothing and equipment.
2. Members who engage in or are exposed to the hazards of wildland fire-fighting operations shall be provided with and use a protective ensemble that meets the requirements of NFPA 1977, Standard on Protective Clothing and Equipment for Wildland Fire Fighting.
3. Protective clothing for wildland fire-fighting operations shall be fitted so that an overlap of clothing is provided at the waist, ankles, and wrists.
4. Members who engage in or are exposed to the hazards of wildland fire-fighting operations shall be provided with and use a protective helmet that meets the requirements of NFPA 1977, Standard on Protective Clothing and Equipment for Wildland Fire Fighting.
5. Members who engage in or are exposed to the hazards of wildland fire-fighting operations shall be provided with and use protective gloves that meet the requirements of NFPA 1977, Standard on Protective Clothing and Equipment for Wildland Fire Fighting.
6. Members who engage in or are exposed to the hazards of wildland fire-fighting operations shall be provided with and use protective footwear that meets the requirements of NFPA 1977, Standard on Protective Clothing and Equipment for Wildland Fire Fighting.
7. Members who engage in or are exposed to the hazards of wildland fire-fighting operations shall be provided with an approved fire shelter, in a crush-resistant case, and wear it in such a way as to allow immediate deployment.

Members shall be trained in the proper deployment of an approved fire shelter,

at least annually.

8. Each member who engages in or is exposed to the hazards of wildland fire-fighting operations shall be provided with 2 quarts of water. A process shall be established for the rapid replenishment of water supplies

9. Members who engage in or are exposed to the hazards of wildland fire-fighting operations shall be provided with and use a laminated pocket card stating the 10 standard fire-fighting orders, the 18 "watch-out" situations, and the "LCES" (Lookouts, Communications, Escape routes, and Safety zones) safety orders.

H. Personal Alert Safety System (PASS)

1. Each member shall be provided with and shall use a PASS device in the hazardous area. PASS devices shall meet the requirements of NFPA 1982, Standard on Personal Alert Safety Systems (PASS) for Fire Fighters.

2. Each PASS device shall be tested at least weekly and prior to each use, and shall be maintained in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.

I. Life Safety Rope and System Components

1. All life safety ropes, harnesses, and hardware used by emergency services shall meet the applicable requirements of NFPA 1983, Standard on Fire Service Life Safety Rope and System Components.

2. Rope used to support the weight of members or other persons during rescue, fire fighting, other emergency operations, or during training evolutions shall be life safety rope and shall meet the requirements of NFPA 1983, Standard on Fire Service Life Safety Rope and System Components. Life safety rope used for any other purpose shall be removed from service and destroyed.

3. Life safety rope used for rescue at fires or other emergency incidents or for training shall be permitted to be reused if inspected before and after each such use in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions and provided that the following criteria are met:

- a. The rope has not been visually damaged by exposure to heat, direct flame impingement, chemical exposure, or abrasion.
- b. The rope has not been subjected to any impact load.
- c. The rope has not been exposed to chemical liquids, solids, gases, mists, or vapors of any material known to deteriorate rope.

If the rope used for rescue at fires or other emergency incidents or for training has been subjected to (a), (b), or (c) or fails the visual inspection, it shall be

MONROE COUNTY SAFETY POLICIES AND PROCEDURES MANUAL

destroyed after such use. If there is any question regarding the serviceability of the rope after consideration of the above, the safe course of action shall be taken and the rope shall be placed out of service. Life safety rope used for any other purpose shall be removed from service and destroyed.

4. Rope inspection shall be conducted by qualified inspectors in accordance with rope inspection procedures established and recommended as adequate by the rope manufacturer to assure rope is suitable for reuse.

5. Records shall be maintained to document the use of each life safety rope used at fires and other emergency incidents or for training.

J. Eye and Face Protection

1. Primary face and eye protection appropriate for a given specific hazard shall be provided for and used by members exposed to that specific hazard. Such primary face and eye protection shall meet the requirements of ANSI Z87.1, Practice for Occupational and Educational Eye and Face Protection.

2. The full facepiece of SCBA shall constitute face and eye protection when worn. SCBA that has a facepiece-mounted regulator that, when disconnected, provides a direct path for flying objects to strike the face or eyes, shall have the regulator attached in order to be considered eye and face protection.

3. When operating in the hazardous area at an emergency scene without the full facepiece of respiratory protection being worn, members shall deploy the helmet goggles for eye protection.

K. Hearing Protection

1. Hearing protection shall be provided for and used by all members operating or riding on emergency apparatus when subject to noise in excess of 90 dBA.

2. Hearing protection shall be provided for and used by all members when exposed to noise in excess of 90 dBA caused by power tools or equipment, other than in situations where the use of such protective equipment would create an additional hazard to the user.

3. The department shall engage in a hearing conservation program to identify and reduce or eliminate potentially harmful sources of noise in the work environment. Where audiometric testing indicates a significant hearing loss for a member, the department shall address these conditions on an individual basis, as well as take steps to control potentially harmful noise exposure to any or all other members.

L. New and Existing Protective Clothing and Protective Equipment

1. All new protective clothing and protective equipment shall meet the requirements of the current edition, as specified in this guideline, of the respective standards specified in this chapter.
2. Existing protective clothing and protective equipment shall have been in compliance with the edition of the respective NFPA standard that was current when the protective clothing or protective equipment was manufactured.

13.6 Emergency Operations

A. Incident Management

1. Emergency operations and other situations that pose similar hazards, including but not limited to training exercises, shall be conducted in a manner that recognizes hazards and prevents accidents and injuries.
2. An incident management system that meets the requirements of NFPA 1561, Standard on Fire Department Incident Management System, shall be established with written standard operating procedures applying to all members involved in emergency operations. All members involved in emergency operations shall be trained in the system. The incident management system shall be utilized at all emergency incidents. The incident management system shall also be applied to drills, exercises, and other situations that involve hazards similar to those encountered at actual emergency incidents and to simulated incidents that are conducted for training and familiarization purposes.
3. At an emergency incident, the incident commander shall be responsible for the overall management of the incident and the safety of all members involved at the scene. As incidents escalate in size and complexity, the incident commander shall divide the incident into tactical-level management units and assign an incident safety officer to assess the incident scene for hazards or potential hazards.
4. At an emergency incident, the incident commander shall establish an organization with sufficient supervisory personnel to control the position and function of all members operating at the scene and to ensure that safety requirements are satisfied.
5. At an emergency incident, the incident commander shall have the responsibility for the following:
 - a. Arrive on-scene before assuming command.

MONROE COUNTY SAFETY POLICIES AND PROCEDURES MANUAL

- b. Assume and confirm command of an incident and take an effective command position.
- c. Perform situation evaluation that includes risk assessment.
- d. Initiate, maintain, and control incident communications.
- e. Develop an overall strategy and an incident action plan, and assign companies and members consistent with the standard operating procedures.
- f. Develop an effective incident organization by managing resources, maintaining an effective span of control, and maintaining direct supervision over the entire incident, and designate supervisors in charge of specific areas or functions.
- g. Review, evaluate, and revise the incident action plan as required.
- h. Continue, transfer, and terminate command.
- i. On incidents under the command authority of emergency services, provide for liaison and coordination with all other cooperating agencies.
- j. On incidents where other agencies have jurisdiction, implement a plan that designates one incident commander or that provides for unified command. Interagency coordination shall meet the requirements of Section 2-3 of NFPA 1561, Standard on Fire Department Incident Management System.

6. The department shall establish and ensure the maintenance of a emergency dispatch and incident communication system that meets the requirements of Section 2-2 of NFPA 1561, Standard on Fire Department Incident Management System.

B. Risk Management During Emergency Operations

- 1.** The incident commander shall integrate risk management into the regular functions of incident command.
 - a. The concept of risk management shall be utilized on the basis of the following principles:
 - 1.) Activities that present a significant risk to the safety of members shall be limited to situations where there is a potential to save endangered lives.

MONROE COUNTY SAFETY POLICIES AND PROCEDURES MANUAL

- 2.) Activities that are routinely employed to protect property shall be recognized as inherent risks to the safety of members, and actions shall be taken to reduce or avoid these risks.
 - 3.) No risk to the safety of members shall be acceptable when there is no possibility to save lives or property.
- b. The incident commander shall evaluate the risk to members with respect to the purpose and potential results of their actions in each situation. In situations where the risk to department members is excessive, as defined by this section, activities shall be limited to defensive operations.
2. Risk management principles shall be routinely employed by supervisory personnel at all levels of the incident management system to define the limits of acceptable and unacceptable positions and functions for all members at the incident scene.
3. At significant incidents and special operations incidents, the incident commander shall assign an incident safety officer that has the expertise to evaluate hazards and provide direction with respect to the overall safety of personnel.
4. At civil disturbances or incidents involving the risk for physical violence, the incident commander shall ensure that appropriate protective equipment (e.g., body armor) is available and used before members are allowed to enter the hazard area.
5. At terrorist incidents or other incidents involving potential nuclear, biological, and chemical exposure, the incident commander shall exercise risk management practice and ensure that appropriate protective equipment is available for and used by members at risk.

C. Accountability

1. The department shall establish written standard operating procedures and/or guidelines for a personnel accountability system that is in accordance with Section 2-6 of NFPA 1561, Standard on Fire Department Incident Management System, and that provides for the tracking and inventory of all members operating at an emergency incident. The system shall provide a rapid accounting of all personnel at the incident scene.

The department shall consider local conditions and characteristics in establishing the requirements of the personnel accountability system.

2. It shall be the responsibility of all members operating at an emergency

MONROE COUNTY SAFETY POLICIES AND PROCEDURES MANUAL

incident to actively participate in the personnel accountability system.

3. The incident commander shall be responsible for overall personnel accountability for the incident. The incident commander shall initiate an accountability and inventory worksheet at the very beginning of operations and shall maintain that system throughout operations.

a. The incident commander shall maintain an awareness of the location and function of all companies or units at the scene of the incident.

b. Officers assigned the responsibility for a specific tactical level management unit at an incident shall directly supervise and account for the companies operating in their specific area of responsibility.

c. Company officers shall maintain companies and an ongoing awareness of the location and condition of all company members.

d. Where assigned as a company, members shall be responsible to remain as a company under the supervision of their assigned company officer.

e. Members shall be responsible for following personnel accountability system procedures.

4. The personnel accountability system shall be used at all incidents.

5. The department shall develop the system components required to make the personnel accountability system effective.

6. Standard operating procedures and/or guidelines shall be established for the use of additional accountability officers based on the size, complexity, or needs of the incident.

7. The incident commander and members who are assigned a supervisory responsibility for a tactical level management unit that involves multiple companies or crews under their command shall have assigned a member(s) to facilitate the ongoing tracking and accountability of all assigned companies.

D. Members Operating at Emergency Incidents

1. The department shall provide an adequate number of personnel to safely conduct emergency scene operations. Operations shall be limited to those that can be safely performed by the personnel available at the scene. No member or members shall commence or perform any fire-fighting function or evolution that is not within the established safety criteria of the organizational statement as specified in this guideline.

MONROE COUNTY SAFETY POLICIES AND PROCEDURES MANUAL

2. When inexperienced members are working at an incident, direct supervision shall be provided by more experienced officers or members. This requirement shall not reduce the training requirements contained in Chapter 13.3 of this guideline.
3. Members operating in hazardous areas at emergency incidents shall operate in teams of two or more. Team members operating in hazardous areas shall be in communication with each other through visual, audible, or physical means or safety guide rope, in order to coordinate their activities. Team members shall be in close proximity to each other to provide assistance in case of emergency.
4. In the initial stages of an incident where only one team is operating in the hazardous area at a working structural fire, a minimum of four individuals is required, consisting of two individuals working as a team in the hazard area and two individuals present outside this hazard area for assistance or rescue at emergency operations where entry into the danger area is required.

The standby members shall be responsible for maintaining a constant awareness of the number and identity of members operating in the hazardous area, their location and function, and time of entry. The standby members shall remain in radio, visual, voice, or signal line communications with the team.

- a. The "initial stages" of an incident shall encompass the tasks undertaken by the first arriving company with only one team assigned or operating in the hazardous area.
- b. One standby member shall be permitted to perform other duties outside of the hazardous area, such as apparatus operator, incident commander, or technician or aide, provided constant communication is maintained between the standby member and the members of the team. The assignment of any personnel, including the incident commander, the safety officer, or operators of fire apparatus, shall not be permitted as standby personnel if by abandoning their critical task(s) to assist or, if necessary, perform rescue, they clearly jeopardize the safety and health of any fire fighter working at the incident. No one shall be permitted to serve as a standby member of the fire-fighting team when the other activities in which he/she is engaged inhibit his/her ability to assist in or perform rescue, if necessary, or are of such importance that they cannot be abandoned without placing other fire fighters in danger.
- c. The standby member shall be provided with at least the appropriate full protective clothing, protective equipment, and SCBA as required in Chapter 13.5 of this guideline. The full protective clothing, protective equipment, and SCBA shall be immediately accessible for use by the

MONROE COUNTY SAFETY POLICIES AND PROCEDURES MANUAL

outside team if the need for rescue activities inside the hazard area is necessary. The standby members shall don full protective clothing, protective equipment, and SCBA prior to entering the hazard area.

d. When only a single team is operating in the hazardous area in the initial stages of the incident, this standby member shall be permitted to assist, or if necessary perform, rescue for members of his/her team, providing abandoning his/her task does not jeopardize the safety or health of the team. Once a second team is assigned or operating in the hazardous area, the incident shall no longer be considered in the "initial stage," and at least one rapid intervention crew shall be required.

e. Initial attack operations shall be organized to ensure that, if upon arrival at the emergency scene, initial attack personnel find an imminent life-threatening situation where immediate action could prevent the loss of life or serious injury, such action shall be permitted with less than four personnel when conducted in accordance with this guideline. No exception shall be permitted when there is no possibility to save lives. Any such actions taken in accordance with this section shall be thoroughly investigated by the department with a written report submitted to the Fire Rescue Director.

5. When members are performing special operations, the highest available level of emergency medical care shall be standing by at the scene with medical equipment and transportation capabilities. Basic life support shall be the minimum level of emergency medical care.

a. Emergency medical care and medical monitoring at hazardous materials incidents shall be provided by or supervised by personnel who meet the minimum requirements of NFPA 473, Standard for Competencies for EMS Personnel Responding to Hazardous Materials Incidents.

b. At all other emergency operations, the incident commander shall evaluate the risk to the members operating at the scene and, if necessary, request that at least basic life-support personnel and patient transportation be available.

6. When members are operating from aerial devices, they shall be secured to the aerial device by an approved ladder belt that complies with the requirements of this guideline.

7. When members are operating at an emergency incident and their assignment places them in potential conflict with motor vehicle traffic, they shall wear a garment with fluorescent retroreflective material.

- a. Apparatus shall be utilized as a shield from oncoming traffic wherever possible.
- b. When acting as a shield, apparatus warning lights shall remain on, if appropriate, and fluorescent and retroreflective warning devices such as traffic cones, illuminated warning devices such as highway flares, or other appropriate warning devices shall be used to warn oncoming traffic of the emergency operations and the hazards to members operating at the incident.

E. Rapid Intervention for Rescue of Members

1. The department shall provide personnel for the rescue of members operating at emergency incidents if the need arises.
2. A rapid intervention crew shall consist of at least two members and shall be available for rescue of a member or a team if the need arises. Rapid intervention crews shall be fully equipped with the appropriate protective clothing, protective equipment, SCBA, and any specialized rescue equipment that might be needed given the specifics of the operation under way.
3. The composition and structure of rapid intervention crews shall be permitted to be flexible based on the type of incident and the size and complexity of operations. The incident commander shall evaluate the situation and the risks to operating teams and shall provide one or more rapid intervention crews commensurate with the needs of the situation.
4. In the early stages of an incident, which includes the deployment of the department's initial attack assignment, the rapid intervention crew(s) shall be in compliance with 13-6.D and 13-6.D.2 and be either one of the following:
 - a. On-scene members designated and dedicated as rapid intervention crew(s).
 - b. On-scene members performing other functions but ready to redeploy to perform rapid intervention crew functions.

The assignment of any personnel shall not be permitted as members of the rapid intervention crew if abandoning their critical task(s) to perform rescue clearly jeopardizes the safety and health of any member operating at the incident.

5. As the incident expands in size or complexity, which includes an incident commander's requests for additional resources beyond the department's initial attack assignment, the rapid intervention crews shall upon arrival of these additional resources be either one of the following:

MONROE COUNTY SAFETY POLICIES AND PROCEDURES MANUAL

- a. On-scene members designated and dedicated as rapid intervention crews.
- b. On-scene company or companies located for rapid deployment and dedicated as rapid intervention crews.

6. At least one rapid intervention crew shall be standing by with equipment to provide for the rescue of members that are performing special operations or for members that are in positions that present an immediate danger of injury in the event of equipment failure or collapse.

F. Rehabilitation During Emergency Operations.

1. The department shall develop standard operating procedures and/or guidelines that outline a systematic approach for the rehabilitation of members operating at incidents. Provisions addressed in these procedures shall include medical evaluation and treatment, food and fluid replenishment, crew rotation, and relief from extreme climatic conditions.
2. The incident commander shall consider the circumstances of each incident and initiate rest and rehabilitation in accordance with the standard operating procedures and/or guidelines and with NFPA 1561, Standard on Fire Department Incident Management System.
3. Such on-scene rehabilitation shall include at least basic life-support care.
4. Each member operating at an incident shall be responsible to communicate rehabilitation and rest needs to his/her supervisor.

G. Civil Unrest/Terrorism.

1. The department shall develop and maintain written standard operating procedures and/or guidelines that establish a standardized approach to the safety of members at incidents that involve violence, unrest, or civil disturbance. Such situations shall include but not be limited to riots, fights, violent crimes, drug-related situations, family disturbances, deranged individuals, and people interfering with department operations.
2. The department shall be responsible for developing an interagency agreement with its law enforcement agency counterpart to provide protection for department members at situations that involve violence.

The department shall develop a standard communication method that indicates that an incident crew is faced with a life and death situation requiring immediate law enforcement intervention.

MONROE COUNTY SAFETY POLICIES AND PROCEDURES MANUAL

3. Such violent situations shall be considered essentially a law enforcement event, and the department shall coordinate with the law enforcement incident commander throughout the incident.
4. The department incident commander shall identify and react to situations that do involve or are likely to involve violence.
5. In such violent situations, the department incident commander shall communicate directly with the law enforcement incident commander to ensure the safety of department members.
6. In such violent situations, the department incident commander shall stage all department resources in a safe area until the law enforcement agency has secured the scene.
7. When violence occurs after emergency operations have been initiated, the department incident commander shall either secure immediate law enforcement agency protection or shall withdraw all department members to a safe staging area.
8. Department companies or teams that provide support to law enforcement agency special weapons and tactics (SWAT) operations shall receive special training. Special standard operating procedures shall be developed that describe the training and safety of these emergency service department teams for such operations.

These activities shall be considered as special operations for the purpose of this guideline.

H. Post-Incident Analysis

1. The department shall establish requirements and standard operating procedures and/or guidelines for a standardized post-incident analysis of significant incidents or those that involved serious injury or death to an emergency responder or firefighter.
2. The department incident safety officer shall be involved in the post-incident analysis as defined in NFPA 1521, Standard for Fire Department Safety Officer.
3. The analysis shall conduct a basic review of the conditions present, the actions taken, and the effect of the conditions and actions on the safety and health of members.
4. The analysis shall identify any action necessary to change or update any

safety and health program elements to improve the welfare of members.

5. The analysis process shall include a standardized action plan for such necessary changes. The action plan shall include the change needed and the responsibilities, dates, and details of such actions.

13.7 Facility Safety

A. Safety Standards

1. All department facilities shall comply with all legally applicable health, safety, building, and fire code requirements.
2. The department shall provide facilities for disinfecting, cleaning, and storage in accordance with the Department's Infection Control Program.
3. All existing and new stations shall be provided with smoke detectors in work, sleeping, and general storage areas. When activated, these detectors shall sound an alarm throughout the station.
4. All existing and new emergency service department facilities shall have carbon monoxide detectors installed in sleeping and living areas.
5. All emergency service stations and department facilities shall comply with NFPA 101, Life Safety Code.
6. The department shall prevent exposure to fire fighters and contamination of living and sleeping areas to exhaust emissions.
7. All department facilities shall have designated smoke-free areas that include work, sleeping, kitchen, and eating areas.

B. Inspections

1. All department facilities shall be inspected at least annually to provide for compliance with this chapter. Inspections shall be documented and recorded.
2. All department facilities shall be inspected at least monthly to identify and provide correction of any safety or health hazards.

C. Maintenance and Repairs

The department shall have an established system to maintain all facilities and to provide prompt correction of any safety or health hazard or code violation.

13.8 Medical and Physical

A. Medical Requirements

1. Candidates shall be medically evaluated and certified by the Monroe County physician. Medical evaluations shall take into account the risks and the functions associated with the individual's duties and responsibilities.
2. Candidates and members who will engage in fire suppression shall meet the medical requirements specified in NFPA 1582, Standard on Medical Requirements for Fire Fighters, prior to being medically certified for duty by the Monroe County physician.
3. All members who engage in fire suppression shall be medically evaluated periodically as specified by NFPA 1582, Standard on Medical Requirements for Fire Fighters, on at least an annual basis, and before being reassigned to emergency duties after debilitating illnesses or injuries. Members who have not met the medical evaluation requirements shall not be permitted to engage in fire suppression. Where medical evaluations are conducted by a physician other than the department physician, the evaluation shall be subject to review and shall be approved by the department physician.
4. The medical evaluation shall be at no cost to the candidate, current fire fighter, or other member.
5. Members who are under the influence of alcohol or drugs shall not participate in any department operations or other duties.

B. Physical Performance Requirements

1. The department shall develop physical performance requirements for candidates and members who engage in emergency operations.
2. Medical certification for the use of respiratory protection shall be conducted annually.
3. Candidates shall be certified by the department as meeting the physical performance requirements specified in this section prior to entering into a training program to become a fire fighter.
4. Members who engage in emergency operations shall be annually evaluated and certified by the department as meeting the physical performance requirements specified in this section. Members who do not meet the required level of physical performance shall not be permitted to engage in emergency operations.

5. Members who are unable to meet the physical performance requirements specified in this section shall enter a physical performance rehabilitation program to facilitate progress in attaining a level of performance commensurate with the individual's assigned duties and responsibilities.

C. Physical Fitness

1. The department shall establish and provide a physical fitness program to enable members to develop and maintain an appropriate level of fitness to safely perform their assigned functions. The maintenance of fitness levels specified in the program shall be based on fitness standards determined by the department that reflect the individual's assigned functions and activities and that are intended to reduce the probability and severity of occupational injuries and illnesses.

2. The department shall require the structured participation of all members in the physical fitness program.

3. The department health and fitness coordinator shall administer all aspects of the physical fitness and health enhancement program. The health and fitness coordinator shall act as a direct liaison between the Monroe County physician and the department in accordance NFPA 1582, Standard on Medical Requirements for Fire Fighters.

D. Confidential Health Data Base

1. The department shall ensure that a confidential, permanent health file is established and maintained on each individual member.

The individual health file shall record the results of regular medical evaluations and physical performance tests, any occupational illnesses or injuries, and any events that expose the individual to known or suspected hazardous materials, toxic products, or contagious diseases.

2. Health information shall be maintained as a confidential record for each individual member as well as a composite database for the analysis of factors pertaining to the overall health and fitness of the member group.

3. If a member dies as a result of occupational injury or illness, autopsy results, if available, shall be recorded in the health data base.

E. Infection Control

1. The department shall actively attempt to identify and limit or prevent the exposure of members to infectious and contagious diseases in the performance of their assigned duties.

2. The department shall operate an infection control program that meets the requirements of the Department's Infection Control Program and federal guidelines. When appropriate, inoculations, vaccinations, and other treatment shall be made available.

F. Monroe County Physician and Emergency Services Medical Director.

1. The county shall have an officially designated physician who shall be responsible for evaluating, examining, and advising the members with regard to their health, fitness, and suitability for various duties.

2. The county's physician and/or department's medical director shall provide medical guidance in the management of the occupational safety and health program.

3. The county's physician and/or department's medical director shall be a licensed medical doctor or osteopathic physician qualified to provide professional expertise in the areas of occupational safety and health as they relate to emergency services.

4. The county's physician and/or department's medical director shall be readily available for consultation and to provide professional services on an urgent basis. Availability shall be permitted to be accomplished by providing access to a number of qualified physicians.

G. Post-Injury/Illness Rehabilitation

1. It shall be an ongoing objective of the department to assist members affected by occupational injuries or illnesses in their rehabilitation and to facilitate their return to full active duty or limited duty where possible.

2. Prior to a member returning to full duty from a debilitating injury, illness, or any other extended leave, a member shall have a physical performance assessment performed by the health and fitness coordinator under supervision by county physician based on the individual's duties and responsibilities. In addition, the health and fitness coordinator may require a physical performance assessment.

13.9 Member Assistance and Wellness Program

A. Member Assistance Program

1. Monroe County has provided an Employee Assistance Program for all members of the department that identifies and assists members with substance abuse, stress, and personal problems that adversely affect department work

performance.

2. Monroe County is a drug-free workplace and all departments shall adopt a written policy statement on alcoholism, substance abuse, and other problems covered by the member assistance program.

NOTE: This benefit is available to employees who qualify to be covered by the group benefits program.

B. Wellness Program

1. The wellness program shall provide health promotion activities that identify physical and mental health risk factors and shall provide education and counseling for the purpose of preventing health problems and enhancing overall well-being.

13.10 Critical Incident Stress Program

A. The Department Medical Director shall provide medical guidance in the management of the critical incident stress program.

B. The Department Shall Adopt a written policy and/or guideline that establishes a program designed to relieve the stress generated by an incident that could adversely affect the psychological and physical well-being of department members. The policy and/or guideline shall establish criteria for implementation of the program.

C. The Program Shall be Made Available to members for incidents including but not limited to mass casualties, large life loss incidents, fatalities involving children, fatalities or injuries involving department members, and any other situations that affect the psychological and physical well-being of department members.

13.11 Referenced Publications

The following documents or portions thereof are referenced within this guideline as mandatory requirements and shall be considered part of the requirements of this guideline. The edition indicated for each referenced mandatory document is the current edition as of the date of the NFPA issuance of this guideline.

Some of these mandatory documents might also be referenced in this guideline for specific informational purposes and, therefore, are also listed in Appendix C.

A. NFPA Publications

National Fire Protection Association, 1 Batterymarch Park, P.O. Box 9101, Quincy, MA 02269-9101.

NFPA 10, Standard for Portable Fire Extinguishers, 1994 edition.

MONROE COUNTY SAFETY POLICIES AND PROCEDURES MANUAL

NFPA 101, Life Safety Code, 1997 edition.

NFPA 472, Standard for Professional Competence of Responders to Hazardous Materials Incidents, 1997 edition.

NFPA 473, Standard for Competencies for EMS Personnel Responding to Hazardous Materials Incidents, 1997 edition.

NFPA 600, Standard on Industrial Fire Brigades, 1996 edition.

NFPA 1001, Standard on Fire Fighter Professional Qualifications, 1997 edition.

NFPA 1002, Standard for Fire Department Vehicle Driver/Operator Professional Qualifications, 1993 edition.

NFPA 1003, Standard for Airport Fire Fighter Professional Qualifications, 1994 edition.

NFPA 1021, Standard for Fire Officer Professional Qualifications, 1997 edition.

NFPA 1041, Standard for Fire Service Instructor Professional Qualifications, 1996 edition.

NFPA 1051, Standard for Wildland Fire Fighter Professional Qualifications, 1995 edition.

NFPA 1403, Standard on Live Fire Training Evolutions, 1997 edition.

NFPA 1404, Standard for a Fire Department Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus Program, 1996 edition.

NFPA 1405, Guide for Land-Based Fire Fighters Who Respond to Marine Vessel Fires, 1996 edition.

NFPA 1500, Standard on Fire Fighter Safety 1997 edition

NFPA 1521, Standard for Fire Department Safety Officer, 1997 edition.

NFPA 1561, Standard on Fire Department Incident Management System, 1995 edition.

NFPA 1581, Standard on Fire Department Infection Control Program, 1995 edition.

NFPA 1582, Standard on Medical Requirements for Fire Fighters, 1997 edition.

NFPA 1901, Standard for Automotive Fire Apparatus, 1996 edition.

NFPA 1906, Standard for Wildland Fire Apparatus, 1995 edition.

NFPA 1911, Standard for Service Tests of Pumps on Fire Department Apparatus, 1997 edition.

NFPA 1914, Standard for Testing Fire Department Aerial Devices, 1997 edition.

NFPA 1931, Standard on Design of and Design Verification Tests for Fire Department Ground Ladders, 1994 edition.

NFPA 1932, Standard on Use, Maintenance, and Service Testing of Fire Department Ground Ladders, 1994 edition.

MONROE COUNTY SAFETY POLICIES AND PROCEDURES MANUAL

NFPA 1961, Standard on Fire Hose, 1997 edition.

NFPA 1962, Standard for the Care, Use, and Service Testing of Fire Hose Including Couplings and Nozzles, 1993 edition.

NFPA 1964, Standard for Spray Nozzles (Shutoff and Tip), 1993 edition.

NFPA 1971, Standard on Protective Ensemble for Structural Fire Fighting, 1997 edition.

NFPA 1975, Standard on Station/Work Uniforms for Fire Fighters, 1994 edition.

NFPA 1976, Standard on Protective Clothing for Proximity Fire Fighting, 1992 edition.

NFPA 1977, Standard on Protective Clothing and Equipment for Wildland Fire Fighting, 1993 edition.

NFPA 1981, Standard on Open-Circuit Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus for Fire Fighters, 1997 edition.

NFPA 1982, Standard on Personal Alert Safety Systems (PASS) for Fire Fighters, 1993 edition.

NFPA 1983, Standard on Fire Service Life Safety Rope and System Components, 1995 edition.

NFPA 1991, Standard on Vapor-Protective Suits for Hazardous Chemical Emergencies, 1994 edition.

NFPA 1992, Standard on Liquid Splash-Protective Suits for Hazardous Chemical Emergencies, 1994 edition.

NFPA 1993, Standard on Support Function Protective Clothing for Hazardous Chemical Operations, 1994 edition.

NFPA 1999, Standard on Protective Clothing for Emergency Medical Operations, 1997 edition.

B. American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists Publication

6500 Glenway Avenue, Bldg. D7, Cincinnati, OH 45211.

Threshold Limit Values and Biological Exposure Indices for 1996-1977, 1996.

C. ANSI Publications.

American National Standards Institute, 11 West 42nd Street, New York, NY 10036.

ANSI/CGA G7.1, Commodity Specification for Air, 1989.

ANSI Z87.1, Practice for Occupational and Educational Eye and Face Protection, 1989.

D. U.S. Coast Guard Publication

U.S. Coast Guard Commandant Instruction M 16465, Department of Transportation, Washington, DC.

MONROE COUNTY SAFETY POLICIES AND PROCEDURES MANUAL

U.S. Coast Guard Chemical Response Information System (CHRIS), Volumes 1-3, "Hazardous Chemical Data," October 1978.

E. U.S. Government Publications

U.S. Government Printing Office, Superintendent of Documents, Washington, DC 20402.

NIOSH Pocket Guide to Chemical Hazards, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Public Health Services, Publication DHHS No. 85-114, September 1985.

Title 42, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 84 (42 CFR 84), July 1995.

F. Florida Statutes and Administrative Code.

Ch. 401 F.S. EMS Act of 1973 as amended FAC 64E-2. EMS Rules.

Ch. 633 F.S. State Fire Marshal's Rules and Regulations. FAC 4A.

G. Other Publication.

Sax, N. Irving, Dangerous Properties of Industrial Chemicals, 6th ed., Van Nostrand Reinhold, NY, 1988.

H. Monroe County Emergency Services Standard Operating Procedures and Guidelines.